GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3500
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2002
ATTACKS ON TEMPLES
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT;RADHA MOHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attack on temple in Jammu was well planned conspiracy;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents of terrorist attacks on religious places that took place during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;

(c) the details of loss of life and property suffered in each of these attacks;

(d) the name of organisations responsible for these attacks; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the religious places in various States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): As reported by the State Government of J&K, Pak-ISI backed terrorist outfits are apparently bent upon attempting to vitiate communal harmony in the State and beyond. However, the attack in Raghunath temple in Jammu appears to have been carried out by terrorists who had not recced the area before the attack.

(b)to(d): Public order and police being State subject, such State wise details are not maintained at central Government level.In the suicidal attack on Raghunath Mandir Jammu on 30.3.2002, ten persons, including three police personnel and the two attacking terrorists, were killed and 18 others injured. No terrorist outfit has owned the responsibility for the incident.

(e): The Union Government helps the State Governments in its various measures at maintaining peace and communal harmony including protection of religious places in a variety of ways i.e. sharing of information, sending alert messages, providing Central Para-military forces on request and through assistance for the modernization of State Police forces.